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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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January 2, 2020

FILED

JAN 07 2020 *KL*

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

*Via U.S. Mail*

✓ The Honorable Judge Dennis Montali  
US Bankruptcy Court  
Northern District of California  
280 S 1<sup>st</sup> Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

The Honorable Judge Cheng  
Superior Court of California, Dept 606  
400 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4514

The Honorable Teri L. Jackson  
San Francisco Superior Court, Dept 613  
400 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4514

RE: Bankruptcy Case No. 19-30088 (DM)  
Superior Court of CA JCCP No. 4955  
PG&E Corp & Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Dear Honorable Judge Montali, Honorable Judge Cheng and Honorable Judge Jackson:

Please accept this as my formal objection to any proposed settlements in the above-related action(s). Please allow me to expand.

The individual fire victims hold valid claims against the County of Sonoma and the City of Santa Rosa. Yet, these victims are represented by the same firms that represent the County of Sonoma and the City of Santa Rosa – also seeking damages against PG&E. The inherent conflict of interest is glaring.

Plaintiff's counsel had an absolute duty to act in their client's best interests. Obviously because they also represented the County of Sonoma and the City of Santa Rosa, it would not serve the public agencies well if they

For example, 911 operators for the City of Santa Rosa instructed residents (including a judicial officer) to "stay in their homes and keep the windows closed" –yet those homes burned only hours later. Not only did they nearly lose their lives, they lost valuable and irreplaceable

property that could have been saved but for the poor instructions given by 911 operators. Representatives of the County of Sonoma were also **extremely** negligent when they chose not to notify residents about the firestorm approaching. Instead these individuals sat on their hands and allowed raging fires to sweep through Sonoma County and destroy homes and kill people sleeping in bed- most of whom had no idea the fire was approaching. The obvious "failure to act" by these agencies directly resulted in the deaths of many people.

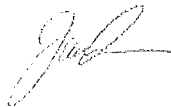
I am unaware of any attempt by "Plaintiff's" counsel to inform or advise fire victims of their rights to bring action(s) against the County of Sonoma or the City of Santa Rosa. It is the fundamental duty of an attorney to act in their client's best interests. It appears that at 11<sup>th</sup> hour, an ethical firm in Sonoma County jumped in and filed a class-action lawsuit against the County of Sonoma for the exact causes of action that this office previously raised (see Stark v County of Sonoma SCV-265299 filed 10/04/2019). <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/10421341-181/lawsuit-sonoma-county-failed-to>

It is well known that class-action litigation typically takes many years to resolve. I find it suspect that the current class-counsel have reached settlement in record speeds –without working in the best interests of the individual fire victims- their primary clients.

**Please accept this as a formal objection to any proposed settlement in this action.** It seems appropriate for the Court to ask questions of these firms and perhaps appoint an independent attorney to review the causes of action and potential claims and determining whether the interests of the fire victims have been ethically and adequately represented before any final settlement is approved.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Joseph Soldis

CC:

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